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Nar Phu language

Nar Phu, or **'Narpa**, is a Sino-Tibetan variety spoken in the two villages of Nar and Phu, in the Valley of the Nar Khola in the Manang district of Nepal. It forms a dialect continuum with Manang and may be intelligible with it; however, the Nar and Phu share a secret language to confound Gyasumdo and Manang who would otherwise understand them.[1]

Nar Phu	
Native to	Nepal
Region	Manang district
Native speakers	600 (2011)[1]
Language family	Sino-Tibetan ▪ Tamangic ▪ Manang ▪ **Nar Phu**
Dialects	Nar (Lower Nar) Phu (Upper Nar)
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	npa
Glottolog	narp1239 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/narp1239)[2]

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Phonology

Vowels

	Front	Back
Close	i	u
Close-mid	e	o
Open-mid	ɛ	
Low	a	ɑ

Consonants

		Bilabial	Dental	Retroflex	Alveolo-palatal	Velar
Plosive	unaspirated	p	t	ʈ		k
	aspirated	pʰ	tʰ	ʈʰ		kʰ
Affricate	unaspirated		ts		tɕ	
	aspirated		tsʰ		tɕʰ	
Fricative			s		ɕ	
Nasal		m	n		ɲ	ŋ
Lateral	voiced		l			
	voiceless		l̥			
Rhotic	voiced		r			
	voiceless		r̥			
Approximant		w			j	ɰ

Tones

Nar Phu distinguishes three tones: high falling, high level, low rising murmured, and mid/low falling murmured.

References

1. Nar Phu (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/npa/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Nar Phu" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/narp1239). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

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- Kristine A. Hildebrandt (2013). “Converb and aspect marking polysemy in Nar” Responses to Language Endangerment: In Honor of Mickey Noonan, edited by Elena Mihas, Bernard Perley, Gabriel Rei-Doval, and Kathleen Wheatley, 97-117. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Kristine A. Hildebrandt, D.N. Dhakal, Oliver Bond, Matt Vallejo and Andrea Fyffe. (2015). “A sociolinguistic survey of the languages of Manang, Nepal: Co-existence and endangerment.” *NFDIN Journal (https://web.archive.org/web/20160616212827/http://www.nfdin.gov.np/securi/),* 14.6: 104-122.

External links

- Manang Languages Project of Kristine Hildebrandt (https://mananglanguages.isg.siue.edu/)
- Nar Phu Valley Trekking Nepal (https://www.marveltreks.com/trip/nar-phu-valley-trek/)
- Nar-Phu language archive (https://audio-video.shanti.virginia.edu/collection/nar-phu) at the University of Virginia Tibetan and Himalayan Library (http://www.thlib.org/)

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